



CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A tether substantially prevented from snugly encircling an appendage or neck of a child aged five or under, thereby substantially preventing a danger of choking and/or loss of circulation while maintaining an accessory near the child, comprising;

at least one elongate relatively stiffer section(;) having a first end and a second end;

at least one relatively flexible accessory section extending from the first end of the at least one relatively stiffer section, the at least one relatively flexible accessory section being adapted to connect to a child accessory and incapable of snugly encircling a neck or appendage in conjunction with the at least one relatively stiffer section(.); and

at least one flexible anchor section extending from the second end of the elongate relatively stiffer section, the at least one flexible anchor section being adapted to connect to an anchor.

2. The tether according to claim 1 wherein the at least one accessory section is adapted to connect to at least one of: a C-tab, a hook, a ring, and a section of the accessory.

3. The tether according to claim 1 wherein the at least one accessory section comprises one or more of: a loop, a ring, a hook, a velcro interface, a snap, a pin and a clip.

4. The tether according to claim 3 wherein the at least one accessory section removably connects to the accessory.

Claims 5-7 (Currently Withdrawn)

8. A kit comprising a tether according to claim 1 and including at least one accessory to which the at least one accessory section connects, the at least one accessory comprising at least one of: a baby bottle, a pacifier and a toy.

9. The kit according to claim 8 wherein the one or more included accessories are formed or imprinted with a child-pleasing likeness.

Claims 10-12 (Currently Withdrawn)

13. The tether according to claim 1 wherein the at least one relatively stiffer section comprises one or more of: plastic, metal and rubber.

14. The tether according to claim 1 wherein the at least one relatively stiffer section comprises an extension of the at least one accessory extension to which a stiff material has been attached.

15. The tether according to claim 14 wherein the stiff material comprises one or more of: plastic, metal and rubber.

16. The tether according to claim 1 wherein the at least one relatively stiffer section comprises an extension of the at least one accessory extension to which a material stiffener has been added.

17. The tether according to claim 1 wherein the at least one relatively stiffer section comprises an extension of the at least one accessory extension which has been thickened to form the at least one relatively stiffer section.

Claims 18-20 (Currently Withdrawn)

21. (Currently Amended) The tether according to claim 1 wherein the at least one flexible anchor section (~~, adapted to connect to an anchor, extending from a second end of the elongate relatively stiffer section, the flexible anchor section being~~) is of insufficient length to encircle the neck or appendage in conjunction with the at least one relatively stiffer section.

22. The tether according to claim 21 wherein the tether includes one or more tether-shortening connectors along its length.

23. The tether according to claim 21 wherein the at least one anchor section is adapted to connect to at least one of: a C-tab, hook, a ring, a bar and a structural piece of an anchor.

24. The tether according to claim 23 wherein the at least one anchor section comprises at least one of: a loop, a ring, a hook, a velcro interface, a snap, a pin, a clip and a lasso.

Claims 25-49 (Currently Withdrawn)